

REMARKS

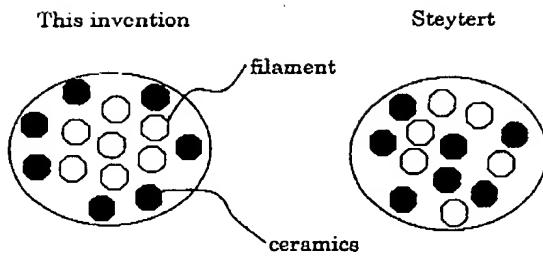
Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of the present application in view of the foregoing amendments and in view of the reasons which follow.

The Office Action mailed May 21, 2002 has been reviewed and the comments of the Patent and Trademark Office have been considered. Claims 1-10 were pending in the application, with claims 7-10 withdrawn from consideration. Claim 1 has been amended and no claims have been canceled. Therefore, claims 1-6 are pending in the application and are submitted for reconsideration by the examiner.

Claim 1 has been amended to clarify that the ceramic materials are buried *substantially only in an outer surface of said metallic covering material and substantially not in the core*. Support for this amendment can be found, for example, on page 4, lines 14-17 of the specification and in Figures 1 and 2. As amended, claim 1 excludes the superconducting wires of Steytert's, which have substantial ceramic materials throughout the core and the surface.

A comparison the invention as recited in claim 1 and Steytert is illustrated in the figure below. As can be seen in the illustration, the ceramic particles of the present invention are substantially confined to the outer surface of the superconducting wire. On the other hand, the superconducting wire of Steytert includes a substantial concentration of ceramic particles in the core. Thus, the wire of Steytert cannot anticipate the presently claimed invention. Further, there is no teaching in Steytert or any other reference of record which suggests that the ceramic particles should be confined substantially to the outer surface of the wire and not in the core. Thus, Steytert cannot render the present claim invention obvious.

(Fig.)



Applicant believes that the present application is now in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration of the application as amended is respectfully requested.

The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned by telephone if it is felt that a telephone interview would advance the prosecution of the present application.

Respectfully submitted,

By 

Date August 7, 2002

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ATTACHMENT A

Marked up version of claim changes made in the Amendment filed

August 7, 2002

1. (Amended) A superconducting wire comprising:
an oxide superconducting material;
a metallic covering material made of metal, for covering a surface of said oxide superconducting material; and
ceramic materials buried substantially only in [a] an outer surface of said metallic covering material and substantially not in a core of said metallic covering material.